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COUNTRY East Germany  
TOPIC Finow Airfield

REPORT

EVALUATION [ ] 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [ ] 25X1  
DATE OF CONTENT [ ] 25X1  
DATE OBTAINED [ ] DATE PREPARED 13 November 1952  
REFERENCES [ ] 25X1  
PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 3 sketches on ditto  
REMARKS

REF ID: A66009  
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1. On 20 September 1952, about 49 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and 6 single-engine aircraft were observed at Finow airfield. [ ] was identified on a MiG-15. Air activity observed at the field on 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 September and 1 October included firing at air sleeves and flying by MiG-15s which were aloft individually, in elements of two, and in formations of four and up to 12 planes. All guns of 37-mm caliber were observed in the southeastern corner of the field.

2. 21 September. At 5 a.m., a siren sounded for about 15 minutes at the field. No aircraft took off. At about 6 a.m., many motor vehicles were observed moving from the direction of the field toward the center of the town. Local residents stated that the vehicles proceeded toward Finowfurth. The vehicles returned about 11:30 a.m. about 45 motor vehicles were observed, 35 of which were counted. Besides some standard trucks, 2 trucks with a coupled generator, 1 truck with 2 coupled compressed-air flasks, and 2 tank trucks one of an old type and the other one of a new type were observed. [ ]

[ ] A total of 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets were observed on the vehicles. 2

23 September. There was no air activity. It was raining.

24 September. No air activity was observed until about 11 a.m. It rained. In the afternoon, four MiG-15s flying in four finger formation were aloft.

26 September. At 8 a.m., MiG-15 and type-29 planes made dives through the close cloud base at an altitude of 800 meters. Within 2 minutes, four MiG-15 and type-29 planes dived through the cloud ceiling. After 5 minutes, another four MiG-15s dived. After an interval of about 10 minutes, eight dives were observed. From the sound, [ ] the planes started diving above the clouds, the angle of dive usually being about 30 degrees, sometimes 10 to 45 degrees. 3 At 4:30 p.m., two MiG-15s were parked at the take-off point. An oil truck stood between the two planes. A starter carriage was observed aft of the left wing of one MiG-15. On top of the wing there was a soldier from the maintenance personnel.

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25X1

who leaned forward to the fuselage, holding a cable, about 3 cm in diameter and about 1 meters long, in his hand. Subsequently, the plane was started. 27 September. At 8 a.m., formation flying was practiced by 12 planes flying in four finger formation to the left.

3. The previously reported bombs were observed for the first time on 26 September being stored in the triangle formed by the Finow-Finowfurth and Finow-furth-Biesenthal railroad lines and the road to Biesenthal. There were two piles of bombs which were guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets. At 5 a.m. on 26 September, [ ] estimated that one pile consisted of about 60 bombs and the other one of about 35 bombs. The sentry guarding the site wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and was armed with a submachine gun. On 2 October, the east edge of the bomb dump which was bordered by a barbed wire fence extended between kilometer markers 0.2 and 0.3. The bomb crates which were 1.7 to 2 meters long consisted of wooden discs 50 cm in diameter, and lathings. The bombs had four fins connected by a metal ring which, apparently, had small bulges. 4

- 25X1 On 29 September, [ ] were observed on three MiG-15s. Between 0:30 a.m. and noon on 30 September, seven-back jet fighters practiced diving at intervals of 3 to 10 minutes. [ ] were observed on two MiG-15s [ ] on two planes of the alert flight. At 5 p.m. on 1 October, the [ ] were identified on two planes of the alert flight. On 2 October, [ ] plane of the alert flight had [ ] trucks [ ] drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, were observed entering and leaving the field. 25X1 25X1 25X1

- 3 5. On 27 September, a Soviet truck loaded with meat left the slaughter house in Oberswalde and proceeded toward the field in Finow. 25X1

1. [ ] Comment. According to available information, two AA gun batteries each consisting of six 37-mm guns are located at the field in the southeastern and northwestern corners of the landing field respectively. 25X1

- 25X1 [ ] Comment. Such practice alerts were observed at other airfields in East Germany. For sketches of special motor vehicles, see Annex 1.

3. [ ] Comment. It is doubted whether dives were made through a close cloud ceiling over the field. It is believed that there was a slightly scattered cloud base and that the dives were made through a cloud gap or that the cloud base was very thin and transparent. As the dives were made over the field it is impossible that the sky was 10/10 overcast. Otherwise, the other aircraft at the field would have been considerably endangered.

4. The presumed bomb dump was previously reported: [ ] For location of bomb piles, see Annex 2. From the description it can not be definitely determined that bombs actually were stored in the crates. According to the reported dimensions of the crates, it is possible that bombs of about 250 kg were stored there. However, this assumption is contradicted by the insufficient sturdiness of the crate described. It is believed that a 250-kg bomb must be mounted on a firm base. The observation that the bomb crates were not located on a firm ground plate indicates that bombs probably were not stored there. Possibly, special drop tanks or auxiliary fuel tanks were in the crates. However, previously observed auxiliary fuel tanks had no fins. For details on crates and bombs, see Annex 3. 25X1

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25X1 5.  Comment. Flnow airfield is still occupied by two fighter regiments  
and a fighter division headquarters. The air activity observed agrees with  
previous information on the status of training of the pilots stationed at  
the field. Aircraft  is reported for the first time.

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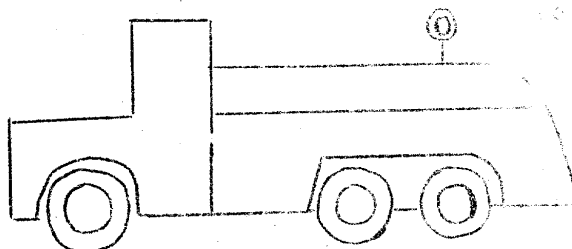
Annex 1

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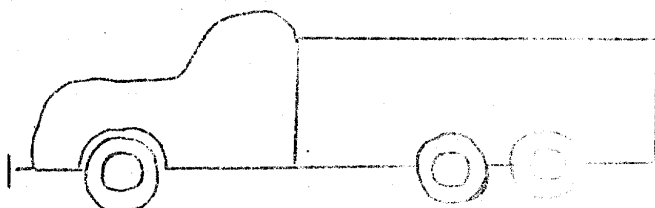
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Special Motor Vehicles Observed at Plo

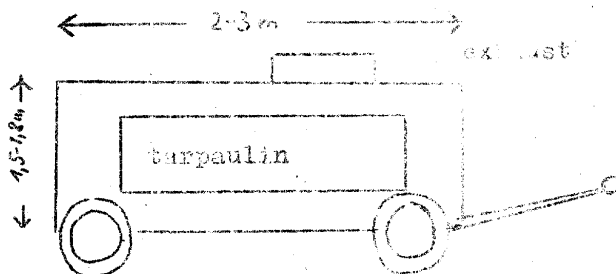
Tank truck of old type



Tank truck of new type



Trailer with generator



coupled compressed-air flask



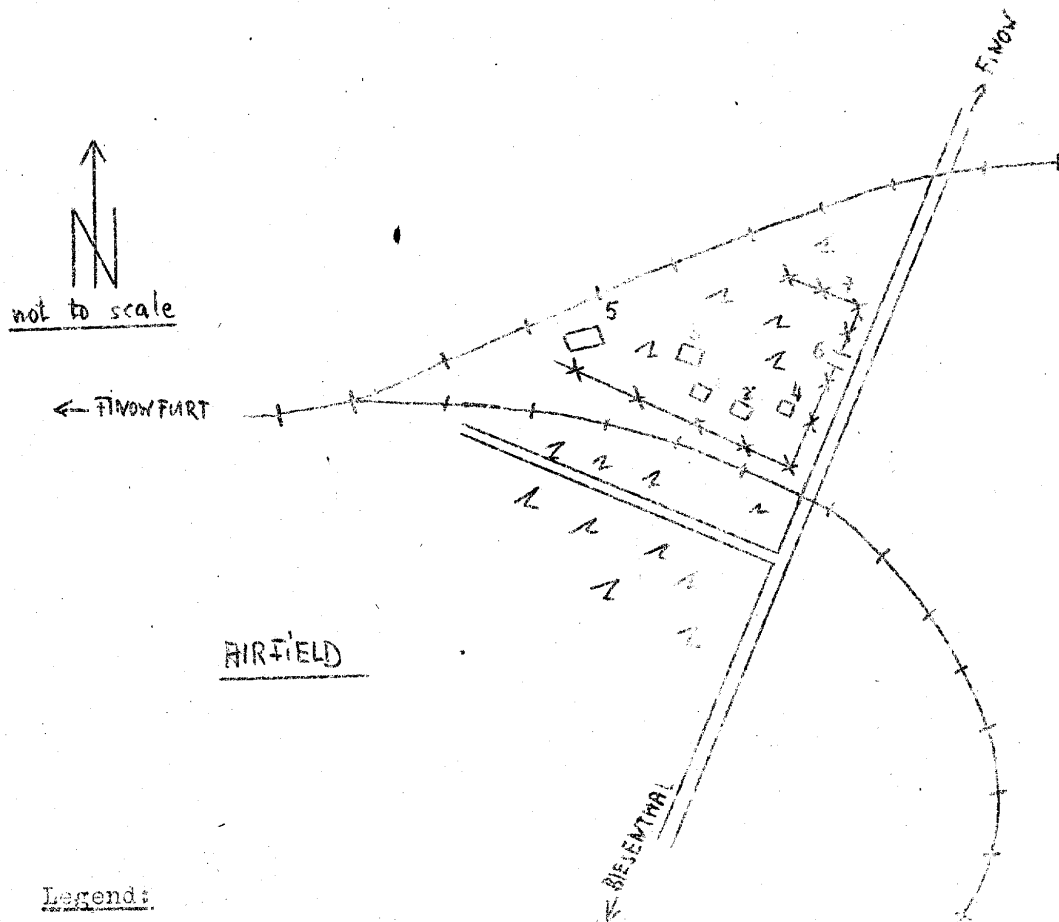
ANNEX 2

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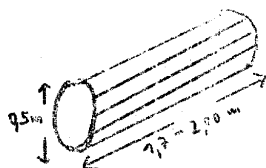
Minow Airfield



Legend:

- 1 and 2 Presumed bomb pits
- 3 Aircraft crash
- 4 Small temporary building
- 5 Brick building, use of which is shown
- 6
- 7

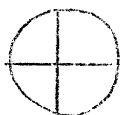
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Bombs in Grates (?) at Pinow Airfield

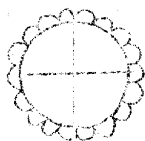
Bomb grate, 1.7 to 2 meters long,  
50 cm in diameter;  
2 wooden discs with  
laths



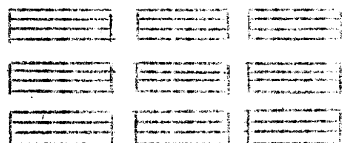
Shape of bomb; same length as grate



Cross section of fin with ring



Some bombs have small bulges  
on outer ring



Side view of bomb fin

